Attorney Docket No.: 31583-226294 Applicant: Joachim STUMPE et al

Appl. No.: 10/559,650

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Method A method for three-dimensionally determining the a refractive index of a transparent or partially transparent layer layers via transmission ellipsometrie, comprising: wherein

inserting the layer in an immersion medium which has a higher refractive index than air;

<u>irradiating</u> the layer <u>is irradiated</u> with polarised light at different angles of incidence; and <u>, and wherein</u>

measuring and evaluating variations in the polarisation of the light are measured and evaluated as the light passes through the layer, characterised in that the measurement is carried out through an immersion medium which has a higher refractive index than air, and between which the layer is inserted.

- 2. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 1, characterised in that claim 1, further comprising applying the layer is applied to a transparent substrate, wherein the measuring is and is measured on the substrate.
- 3. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 2, characterised in that claim 2, further comprising using a refractive index of the an immersion medium is used with a refractive index which [[is]] at least corresponds approximately to a refractive index of the substrate.
- 4. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 1, characterised in that claim 1, further comprising inserting a liquid immersion medium into a chamber, wherein the measuring is in the chamber. the layer is measured in a chamber into which is inserted a liquid immersion medium.

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5. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 1, characterised in that claim 1, further comprising forming the immersion medium is formed by with two solid body halves between which the layer is inserted.

- 6. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 5, characterised in that claim 5, further comprising using two hemispheres or hemicylinders are used as the immersion medium.
- 7. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 6, eharacterised in that claim 6, further comprising supporting the two hemispheres or hemi-cylinders are supported by with capillary forces on the layer and the substrate.
- 8. (Currently Amended) Method A method according to Claim 1, eharacterised in that claim 1, further comprising determining a complex refractive index by irradiating the layer is irradiated simultaneously or consecutively with light of different wavelengths in order to determine the complex refractive index.
- 9. (Currently Amended) Method A method for according to Claim 1 for measuring layers layers for flat screens, optical data storage or optical wave guides comprising: utilizing the method according to claim 1.
- 10. (Currently Amended) Device A device for carrying out the method according to Claim 1, claim 1, comprising:

with a transmission measuring device for measuring a variation in polarisation as the polarised light passes through a sample; and a rotating device for <u>rotating</u> the sample, <u>characterised in that wherein</u> the <u>rotating</u> device comprises:

an immersion medium which has a higher refractive index than air, and

a support for the immersion medium is provided and is designed so that the sample can be inserted is insertable within between the immersion medium and can be rotated the sample is rotatable in or with the immersion medium relative to a beam axis of the polarised light.

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11. (Currently Amended) Device A device according to Claim 10, characterised in that claim 10, wherein the support is comprises a chamber for a liquid immersion medium, which has the chamber having inlet and outlet surfaces for the polarised light.

- 12. (Currently Amended) Device A device according to Claim 11, characterised in that claim 11, wherein the chamber comprises is designed in a cylindrical shape and is connected to the rotating device so that it can be rotated the chamber is rotatable by means of the rotating device.
- 13. (Currently Amended) Device A device according to Claim 10, characterised in that claim 10, wherein the support is designed for receiving is connected to the rotating device, wherein the support receives and fixing fixes two solid body halves, the two solid body halves forming the immersion medium and is connected to the rotating device.